

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 082861

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FOL REPEAT ISLAMABAD 3312 SENT ACTION SECSTATE APR 02

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S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 3312

E.O. 11652:GDS  
TAGS: MASS, PK, US  
SUBJECT: JEZEBEL

1. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS QUESTION OF RELEASE OF JEZEBEL TO PAK NAVY IS STILL UNDER REVIEW IN WASHINGTON. WE REALIZE DECISION WILL BE MADE BASICALLY ON QUESTION OF TECHNICAL CONCERNS, AND USG POLITICAL INTERESTS IN MAKING SYSTEM AVAILABLE WILL HAVE A LESSER IMPACT ON FINAL DECISION. IT MAY BE USEFUL, HOWEVER, FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO HAVE OUR VIEWS ON THIS ISSUE.

2. SALE OF JEZEBEL WOULD FALL WELL WITHIN GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED WHEN OUR ARMS SUPPLY POLICY WAS MUDIFIED IN FEBRUARY 1975. JEZEBEL WOULE ENHANCE PAKISTAN'S DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY AND STRENGTHEN ONE OF WEAKEST POINTS IN ITS DEFENSIVE STRUCTURE - ITS ASW CAPABILITY AND ITS ABILITY TO DEFEND ITS COAST AND PORTS AGAINST AGGRESSION. THE SALE WILL NOT UPSET THE PRESENT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 082861

MILITARY EQUATION IN THE REGION; RATHER, IT WILL BE POSITIVE

MOVE IN THAT IT MAY HELP SLOW DOWN THE ACCELERATING  
DISPARITY BETWEEN PAK AND INDIAN SEA POWER.

3. GOP REQUESTS FOR RECONSIDERATION OF JEZEBEL  
DECISION HAVE BEEN MADE TO ALL LEVELS OF THE EMBASSY.  
IT HAS BEEN RAISED NOT ONLY WITH ODRP AND POL SECTION,  
BUT AZIZ AHMED HAS ALSO DISCUSSED THIS ISSUE SEVERAL  
TIMES WITH THE AMBASSADOR. HIGHEST LEVELS IN GOP  
HAVE BEEN CONVINCED BY THEIR MILITARY THAT JEZEBEL  
IS ESSENTIAL PART OF PAKISTAN'S DEFENSIVE STRUCTURE,  
AND THERE IS INCREASED QUESTIONING OF OUR REASONS  
FOR NOT MAKING SYSTEM AVAILABLE. PAK NAVY REALIZES  
CENTRAL CONSIDERATION IS DISCLOSURE POLICY AND IS CONCERNED  
THAT OUR REFUSAL TO RELEASE INDICATES OUR LACK OF TRUST  
IN THEIR ABILITY TO SAFEGUARD CERTAIN TYPES OF CLASSIFIED  
INFORMATION. THIS CONCERN AND HOW IT REFLECTS ON OUR BILATERAL  
RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN NOTED AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL AS WELL.

4. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THE GOP DOES NOT WANT TO  
COMPLETE ATLANTIQUE SALE UNLESS THE JEZEBEL IS  
INCLUDED. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT EVER TOLD GOP THE  
JEZEBEL WOULD BE RELEASED, IT DOES SEEM THERE WAS  
SOME INITIAL MISUNDERSTANDING OVER THIS ISSUE. ALTHOUGH  
THIS IS NOT AN OVERRIDING REASON FOR US TO AGREE  
TO RELEASE THE JEZEBEL, WE BELIEVE IT SHOULD NEVERTHELESS BE  
CONSIDERED WHEN DECISION IS FINALLY MADE. QUESTION OF RELEASE  
WILL ALSO HAVE IMPACT ON US/FRENCH RELATIONS, BUT THE DEPART-  
MENT IS IN A BETTER POSITION THAN WE TO ASSESS JUST  
WHAT THIS WILL BE.

5. THE EMBASSY'S VIEW IS THAT THERE ARE STRONG  
REASONS, BOTH POLITICAL AND POLITICAL/MILITARY, WHY WE  
SHOULD AGREE TO SUPPLY THE JEZEBEL TO PAKISTAN. ON THOSE  
GROUNDS, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT, DURING  
PRESENT DISCUSSIONS BEING HELD IN WASHINGTON,  
SUPPORT ITS RELEASE. BYROADE

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